

public address

INFORMATION BULLETIN OF THE STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Bigger and Better:

Winter Carnival

The McGill Winter Carnival has more fun in store this year than ever before. The varied program makes it possible for every student to participate.

The first major event in Carnival is Las Vegas Nite, February 10, to be held in the Union. The student will get that affluent feeling as he enters the second floor gambling hall, for every "gambler" is given (yes, given!) \$100,000 currency for the price of one dollar. There will be some 20 to 30 games of chance (roulette included) and you can win and increase your money. Meanwhile, upstairs, part of the third floor will be transformed into "The Red Nugget Bar", complete with honky-tonk pianist. There will also be rock bands for dancing, for those less aesthetically inclined. At midnight, all action in the gambling hall will cease and an auction will take place. A Mustang, free dinners (NOT at the Union), cases of beer, Playboy subscriptions, and other goodies will be auctioned off to the people or groups of people with the most money.

In the Winter Stadium, on Thursday, February 16, a Skating Show will be held, featuring Louise Wakefield, winner of three gold medals in international competition. A hockey game between McGill and U. de M. will ensue, the winner to carry off the Birks Trophy. Then, a torchlight parade with a cavalcade of cars will wind its way from the winter stadium to lower campus. It will end at the ice palace, where the queen will be crowned. After this, everyone can warm up and dance in the Union to "Jamie and the Jesters" and "The Kreatures".

A healthy day at Mt. Habitant is planned for Friday the 17th. As well as pleasure skiing, an inter-collegiate ski meet is attracting hot shots from many universities. A skydiving contest is planned, so you skydivers get out and participate! In the evening, "The Sceptres" and "The Kreatures" will perform in the Tent for those après-ski fruggers. Buses have been arranged to take students to and from the Laurentians.

The following day, the McGill Debating Tournament is staged, with about 35 univer-

sities participating. At night, the Carnival Ball, brought back after a four or five year absence, is being held in the Currie Gym. "The Critters", of "Mr. Dyingly Sad" fame, and our own "Bartholemew plus 3", will provide the music. Door prizes at this semi-formal event will include CPA tickets for two to Hawaii. There will also be the DuMaurier drawing, where money is won by submitting empty cigarette packages.

The last event of the Carnival is the Night at Place des Arts, Monday, February 20th. Chad and Jeremy and the Pozo Seco Singers will entertain.

Tickets for all these events will go on sale Monday, February 6th.

NANCY HUGHES

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Library Liason Committee

Changes beyond the Strip

A few days ago a suggestion box was unveiled (after a fashion) in Tyndale Hall of the Redpath Library. It offers a constructive release to your frustrations over inefficient library service.

The box was set up by the Library Liaison Committee, a sub-committee of the McGill Senate, consisting of three faculty and three student members. Its function is to channel the ideas, grievances and general comments of students regarding library service to the place within the library's administrative structure where they are most likely to be accepted and acted upon.

The suggestion box which is to be serviced by the student members of the committee will hopefully facilitate this process. All suggestions and reasonable criticisms will be brought before the full committee where the students' point of view will be strongly argued. Personal grievances such as unjust fines, will also be welcomed, but if the question is urgent you may wish to see Mr. Archer who is in charge of the entire library system. His office is on the second floor of the Redpath.

Pick-up-Service

A second function of the committee is keep the student body informed about improvements or other changes in library services and facilities. Along these lines you might be interested to know that the library now has the full time use of a truck which makes daily rounds of the campus to pick up requested books from other libraries in the system and bring these to the Redpath. It is also used to retrieve books from professors when these come due. This should help increase accessibility of books because the faculty is not subject to fines and thus some members tend to be forgetful.

New Library

As for the new MacLennan Library the explanation given to the committee for its postponement was not the cutback in university grants but the provincial government's anti-inflationary policy of slowing down construction. Each municipality was told to set its own priorities and because of Expo 67 the new library didn't rank.

As a result of this delay, next year's expected increase in enrollment may force some temporary expansion in seating capacity. Redpath Hall will be the likely choice.

Preserve the Reserves ?

One of the chief bottlenecks in the Redpath is the reserve system, but the committee has grudgingly come to the conclusion that it is a necessary evil as long as the university cannot drastically increase its purchase of books. Such a system exists at almost all colleges and universities. However, the students on the committee are hoping to have a third wicket opened up during peak hours to shorten the wait.

Some students may not be aware that a two hour reserve book may be taken out Saturday afternoon and returned on Monday at nine. In addition if you think a book on two day reserve should be put on two-hour reserve or vice versa, or if you want any other changes in circulation times, a phone call from your professor will change it.

Currently the students on the library committee are doing research into the facilities and problems of libraries at the university other than the Redpath. Last week it submitted a brief to a Senate Commission studying the Biological Sciences library recommending the merging of the Genetics Library with the Botany Library in order to increase the accessibility of books to students.

Student members of the committee are Jim Armstrong BSc4, Marty Freeman BA3 and Aaron Rynd BA3 and they would welcome any ideas related to any of the libraries. Another matter which they are looking into is a safe and efficient system for checking coats, perhaps one whereby coats could be locked to their hangers as is done in some restaurants. The library has already agreed to improve its freshman orientation by substituting compulsory guided tours for the present lecture-cum-slides during English 100 classes.

Marty Freeman



X-ibit Your Preference

UGEQ

With the referendum this coming Wednesday, McGill will be trying for the third time to enter l'Union Générale des Etudiants du Québec. Once again the students of McGill will be asked to affiliate with the National Union of French Canadian students, and once again the rest of Quebec will turn to see how we act.

The basic question involved in Wednesday's referendum, for the French if not for us, is the role we English intend to play in Quebec. As much as we will attempt to weigh the "practical considerations", the fact is that UGEQ is considered by the government, press, and general public as the only voice of Quebec students. As such we will attempt to decide our position on student action and on student responsibility in questions of social importance. Despite the obvious importance of all these considerations, the primary question as far as everyone outside McGill is concerned is our attitude towards the French.

A brief glance at the newspapers published by students in the schools and colleges across the Province will prove this point. French students still believe that when UGEQ was defeated twice last year, the English at McGill were merely stating their disapproval of all

"UGEQ is considered by the government, press, and general public as the only voice of the Quebec students."

that has happened in Quebec during the last few years.

The fact that Sharon Sholzberg and Patrick McFadden, last year's SC President and Daily Editor respectively, were disliked on the campus; the fact that three English schools, Sir George Williams, Loyola and Marianapolis, have already joined UGEQ; none of these facts seem to change the situation. French editorials across Quebec still talk about "La Glorieuse Sharon (Sholzberg)" being defeated by the "racistes" from Westmount and Snowden! These ideas are echoed by English writers in schools across Canada.

Yet we should not allow French-English relations to be our only concern. On all practical grounds, membership in UGEQ is seen to be vital. UGEQ is a viable organization which works actively in many areas of educational and social reform. During the past year, it has presented more than six formal briefs to the Government, the subjects ranging from financial aid and free education, to the administrative organization of regional school boards, to the necessity for a revision of the Legal Aid system in Quebec.

UGEQ is actively researching ways and means of achieving structured changes in the universities. It names representatives to a whole series of govern-

CU
Why join a national union of students? — The
rages contacts and exchanges of ideas among students and
sites to work together to influence government and other
get group benefits which are difficult or impossible for
students can work best to aid others.

The Canadian Union of Students is particularly w
ganization is excellent for encouraging contacts among st
superior with 44 member universities grouping thousa
the beginning of the school year, CUS holds its annual Co
made. Here the student leaders get to know each other, ex
their campuses. During the year, CUS sends out field v
activities and overcome difficulties. CUS Across Canaria
the Student Government Research Service are two other C
action.

CUS also facilitates working with government bodie
city fees deductible from income tax, and CUS is workin
project is Unac — Universal Accessibility to higher educat
last year shows only too well that the poor don't go to un
Health Services on Canadian campuses should be available
bring an improvement.

CUS, of course, offers its members various services.
plan. CUS offers extensive travel plans to students with se
for when you arrive. As well, CUS plays a role in student
the World Student Games.

CUS also works to improve the status of the Canadi
underprivileged around the world. For example, the Pra
ciate Secretary for Indian Affairs. CUS works with CUSO

CUS has a wide-ranging series of plans, programmes
to enable him to serve others. While idealism in CUS may
tinued membership in the Canadian Union of Students is M

ment advisory committees. It has the same status internationa
the Canadian Union of Students; it is reasons such as these that have compelled the off
ficers of the Canadian Union of Students to repeatedly advise McGill to quit CUS and to join UGEQ.

To claim, however, that joining UGEQ is a simple
matter and that we have no reason to hesitate would
be naive. There are many problems involved in joining
UGEQ, not the least of which is the problem of

"CUS . . . UGEQ . . . affirm the rights and obligations of students to be involved in affairs of social importance."

communication. Not communication in the sense of language differences, but in the sense of goal differences. The members of UGEQ take for granted many things the English at McGill do not, in particular the social role of the student.

ence on Feb. 8th...

S

re reasons are several. First, a union fosters and encourages leaders. Second, a union enables the several university bodies in the common interest. As well, the members individual students to obtain. And it is as a group that

well-suited to carry out these aims. Its bilingual student leaders. On the basis of size alone CUS is made of students across Canada. Each year, just before Congress at which plans and policies for the year are exchanged ideas and plan for the year's projects on workers to help the member campuses organize their da, a monthly magazine sent to student leaders, and CUS activities to inform and aid member university's

dies. Determined lobbying some years ago made universities to modify the sales tax law. CUS's main current action. A report on student finances prepared by CUS university. As well, the Schwartz Report on Mental Health soon — another case where co-operation may

es. Best known of these is the CUS Life Insurance several charter flights to Europe and various tours in sports, being the recognized Canadian body for

adian Indian and Eskimo population as well as the President of Canadian Indian Youth is also CUS Association and the Company of Young Canadians as well. Comes and projects to serve the Canadian student and may occasionally overcome realism, on balance, cons McGill's best choice in the coming vote.

Robert De Jean

UGEQ practices a policy of student action. It sees the student as a full citizen who has the responsibility to put his knowledge to work in building a better society. The student has this responsibility because

"Thinking and studying should be the main preoccupation of every student."

of the privileges and expertise which his education gives him and because of the unique financial independence of his situation.

It should be noted that this philosophy of a "student citizen" is now accepted by the Canadian Union of Students. The essential difference, however, is that while CUS has begun to preach "activism", UGEQ has been practising it since the Quebec union was first formed. McGill, then, must be prepared for new ideas and new approaches toward student government when we join UGEQ.

(Continued on page 8)

NEITHER

What is the basic issue in Wednesday's referendum?

We do not lack people who claim they know. Several articles, mainly editorials, in various publications have proclaimed the answer. With a few notable exceptions each has served only to cloud the basic issue.

Against their opponents, UGEQ supporters have raised the cry of isolationist and WASP. UGEQ is elevated to a pedestal as the brilliant solution to the problem of French-English relations. It is implied that UGEQ is our last, best hope of meaningful participation in Quebec society. After all, its basic aims are the same as ours: universal accessibility, better education at all levels, and greater student involvement in society. Remember, however, that these aims are basic enough to be adopted by any organization with the slightest interest in students. Because of this universal acceptability, basic aims cannot be a criterion for our choice on Wednesday.

"We don't have to be members of UGEQ to cooperate with other Quebec students."

UGEQ is unilingual and doesn't plan to change. That would be acceptable if every member-university were French-speaking. But some are English-speaking. Pragmatism is insufficient reason for excluding English. Both English and French have a RIGHT to official recognition of their own language. In Canada, historical justification for this right is considerable. We see it in the Parliament of Ottawa and the Legislature of Quebec City. It matters not which is the working language. What matters is official recognition of both. Otherwise, Quebec's long-persistent claims are baseless.

Can UGEQ increase total university grants? We must wait to find out. In the meantime, we don't have to be members of UGEQ to cooperate with other Quebec students and press for larger grants. A position on the Government's Advisory Council is available to McGill students. Our Students Council can claim it immediately and present our views.

Student activism is related to the basic issue of student union membership. It is the characteristic common to CUS and UGEQ. Both unions enthusiastically promote greater political awareness among students and more energetic political activity in our society. That each student has a right and an obligation to accept this role is not disputed. Continually, I have supported this part of civic responsibility. However, I must reject compulsory student political action.

Last year we decisively rejected the political activism of UGEQ to remain in education-oriented CUS.

(Continued on page 8)

Residences Reviewed:



Living in a nine-by-twelve cubicle may seem to be a bit unrealistic to those of you who are fortunate enough to live elsewhere, but for some 800 students, the better part of their college days and nights are spent in what are commonly known as the men's residences.

Those senior and graduate students who live in what used to be McGill's only residence for men, Douglas Hall, fare a bit better in that they have a common sitting-room for each three bedrooms.

In order to compensate for this omission in the 3 new men's residences, a large Common room and a more intimate, well-furnished lounge were built on the ground floor of each.

In contrast to the women's residences, there are few restrictions placed on the male resident by the administration. The restriction which causes the most displeasure is the one which denies females visiting privileges above the ground floor. On weekends an exception is made for the residents of Douglas Hall, who are permitted to entertain co-eds in their sitting rooms.

Each residence is, in effect, a semi-autonomous unit and functions as such in matters affecting the individual residences. The overall administrative policy rests with the Warden's Committee, consisting of the Warden of each hall and the Executive Assistant to the Principal,



ALTITUDE 737: Joyous residents line up for their daily allotment of gruel. Notice the happy expressions.

who acts as chairman and reports directly to the Principal on residence matters.

The Student Government, which varies from democratic to something else, is responsible for athletics, social functions and other non-administrative areas. It is hoped by the majority of residents that the Council will be allowed to increase its power until, ultimately, the Academic staff becomes a purely advisory body.

One area in which the Inter-residence Councils are trying to affect an improvement is the food situation. Due to the less than palatable meals which emanate from the kitchens of Bishop Mountain Hall, it has earned the nickname "Ptomaine Palace". Though it is realized by male residents that "home cooked" quality meals are impossible to prepare in an operation where 800 plus people must be served three meals a day, the majority feel that the quality and types of foods being served can be improved so as to allow one to consume the needed amount of calories.

Thus the residence is not a perfect place to live but the general opinion among those who live there is that none of these problems are insurmountable. Through the further co-operation of the Student Government and the Administration the residences can be made into the best place to live when attending school away from home.



DEAR ABBEY: Interested students pore over the more lucid section of the paper in preparation for a big Saturday night.



For the uninformed "R.V.C." conjures up a vision of a tyrannical tribunal of wardens, garbed in Batman cloaks, terrorizing naive damsels, each floating on her own iceberg of Victorian inhibitions. An interesting picture — but it could be applied to the Y.M.C.A. with equal accuracy.

Changing times, and in particular a rapid growth (there are now 456 girls in residence) have brought an end to the old "R.V.C. Image". (There is a wise adage in R. V. C. that Queen Victoria, who sits in bronze on the front steps, will stand up the year a chaste class graduates. Wander over and take a look at her sometime.). R.V.C. girls are as diverse a group as any random segment of McGill population. Their individual interests take them into different activities and groups on and off campus. Here and now, then, consider the whispered myth of "the typical R.V.C.er" DEAD!!!

One of the most exciting things about residence life is finding that the whole world is as close as your next-door neighbour. This year there are girls from Ghana, Viet Nam, Hong Kong, Italy, Thailand, to mention only a few! Most of us in residence are Canadian or American, but before long we are talking like experts on conditions of rural Turkey, or speaking enough Chinese to insult the waiter in Chinatown.



THE MOURNING AFTER THE NIGHT BEFORE:
RVC residents exchange tales about the happenings of an eventful night out.

Convenience and cooperation are key words in R.V.C. If your intercom has gone and you're still in your curlers and slip, there are always helping hands to throw you together and get you into the elevator in record time. If you're panicking over an exam, someone gives you an aspirin and helps straighten you out. And happiness is DEFINITELY having a library and laundry rooms right in the building and no commuting to do when there's a blizzard outside!

Of course, residence is not all roses. As a definite campus entity, R.V.C. is pinned down to university regulations, such as the slacks ban for classes, while non-residence women illegally keep their knees warm. Meals outclass Bishop Mountain's delicacies, but are open to improvement. The formality of meals irritates those who resent hominid interaction beyond minimal requirements. Living with 455 other individuals is bound to entail some loss of personal freedoms and privacy. But at the same time it is a good testing ground for each of us as an individual, and living in close contact with such a cross-section of humanity can provide useful insight into human personality! (All types, shapes, sorts, and inexplicable exceptions to every rule!) But after the indigestion subsides and we've broken the habit of rushing our dates back by 2:29 a.m., most of us will regard our years in residence as a vital and valuable part of our university experience.



MAIN 101 : What visitors don't usually see
when they visit the citadel of virtue.

UGEQ ...

And there is the red-herring of unilingualism.

UGEQ is a unilingual organization in that French is the only official language. But quite contrary to what a small group of frightened people have been yelling, this is not some sort of warning that English is to be wiped out in Quebec.

English has been used in the official debates of the organization. The fact is, then, that unilingualism simply reflects the realities of UGEQ; it does not in any way reflect some sort of French-only policy for the rest of Quebec.

What is UGEQ's position towards the English? In a brief submitted recently to the Superior Council of Education, UGEQ affirmed the right of the English to be educated in their own language; Quebec is the national homeland of the French Canadian nation, nevertheless the English still have a role to play, as English, within Quebec. If the English majority in Manitoba and the other Canadian provinces were as respectful of their French minorities as the Quebecois are of ours, then perhaps Canadian biculturalism would not be such a farce.

A small group on campus will no doubt affirm that UGEQ is a "political" organization and students have no right to be "political". CUS, of course, is just as "political" as UGEQ. Both affirm the rights and obligations of students to be involved in affairs of social importance. Both realize that today all organizations that attempt to influence government politics are, in effect, "political". If we fight for more aid to students, higher salaries to teachers, or any similar policies in the field of education, we are in effect carrying out political actions.

When we vote on Wednesday, we must keep all these issues in mind. Not just English-French relations and social responsibility are in question, but also political effectiveness and value to the individual student. Weighing all the factors one must conclude, as did Doug Ward, the President of CUS, that McGill should join UGEQ.

Victor Rabinovitch

NEITHER ...

Last summer at the CUS Congress McGill delegates were outvoted and CUS joined UGEQ in the political arena. As a result, eight universities

withdrew. We are not alone in rejecting compulsory political activism.

CUS and UGEQ base their collective political activism on the premise that there is one collective student identity. **THIS IS THE BASIC ISSUE.**

Is there one all-inclusive student identity? Of course not! There are as many identities as there are individual students, and each day and each hour they are changing in the competition and conflict of our existence. An executive of CUS or UGEQ cannot claim that it speaks for students at large on political issues, because all students must be regarded as free agents, with wisdom, dignity and personal convictions.

UGEQ and CUS have moved beyond their rightful spheres of influence. Their action has produced our crisis in student identity.

If CUS and UGEQ insist upon collective political action, we must reject both. Individual students who are committed to society reform can join organizations dedicated to that cause. At the moment, there are several such groups: SUPA, SNCC, YCL, and SDU. These groups are free to act as they wish according to the political theories they expound, but they do not impose their programme on the student body at large. Any attempt by one group to suggest that it speaks for the Students Society is a serious violation of individual student rights.

We can gain much from an independent position. McGill would be free to cooperate with other groups on specific issues and to establish a French-English dialogue outside of politics. Individually, McGill students would be free to choose a form of involvement which interests them. There would be no compulsory political activism.

Universities are schools, not political organizations! Thinking and studying should be the main preoccupation of every student. The product should be mature thought leading to thoughtful action. Before the referendum obtain as much information as possible. Consider it carefully, rationally. Remember that McGill has established a cosmopolitanism which is one of its greatest assets. We do not have a collective identity. Therefore, collective political activism will violate student rights. Preserve those rights by voting AGAINST CUS and UGEQ on Wednesday.

ARNOLD ABERMAN

public address

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